

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-11 and 13-21 are pending. Claims 2 and 12 have been canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein. Claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, 15, 17 and 18 have been amended.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication that independent claims 10 and 20 are allowed.

Further, Applicants have accepted the Examiner's determination that claims 2 and 12 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, Applicants have amended the corresponding base claims 1 and 11 to include all of the limitations of allowable claims 2 and 12, respectively. Additionally, Applicants have amended claims 3 and 5 to depend from amended claim 1 instead of from canceled claim 2, and have amended claims 13 and 15 to depend from amended claim 11, instead of from canceled claim 12. Claim 18 has been amended to correct a typographical error contained therein.

Applicants have also accepted the Examiner's determination that claims 7 and 17 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Thus, Applicants have amended claims 7 and 17 to be in independent form and to include all of the limitations of the corresponding base claims 1 and 11, respectively.

Accordingly, in view of these amendments, Applicants submit that claims 1, 3-9, 11, 13-19 and 21 are allowable for the reasons of record.

Conclusion

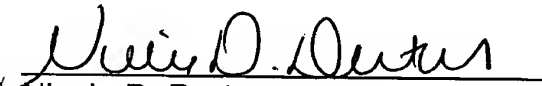
It is believed that this Amendment is accompanied by the required fees. However, if additional fees are required for any reason, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-4800 the necessary amount.

In the event that there are any questions concerning this paper, or the application in general, the Examiner is respectfully urged to telephone Applicants' undersigned representative so that prosecution of the application may be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

Date: October 24, 2007

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